



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **THE USAID PLASTIC RECYCLING PROJECT SUPPORTS RECYCLING CLUBS' PERFORMANCE AT THE STRUMICA CARNIVAL 2008**

On March 11th, students from the Recycling Clubs in Strumica promoted the importance of plastic recycling by participating in the Strumica Carnival. The students created a mask in the shape of a large recycling container which was pulled by two bike-riders followed by 30 kids dressed in bottle-shaped masks. Leaflets with basic information on plastic recycling were distributed to the audience. The USAID Plastic Recycling Project provided materials and supplies used by the students to create this elaborate composition.

"The support by the USAID Plastic Recycling Project has given the opportunity to our children to advocate for clean environment in their own way. They are our pioneers who used their creativity and initiative to spread the word on the importance of plastic recycling throughout the country," said Snezana Koleva, Director of the Marshal Tito primary school.

On December 6, 2007, the USAID Plastic Recycling Project signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Municipality of Strumica for the implementation of its plastic waste collection program. USAID has invested \$30,000, and the Municipality of Strumica provided the remaining funding to implement the waste collection system and to conduct a public awareness campaign. As part of the public awareness program, Recycling Clubs have been established in Strumica's three primary schools - Marshal Tito, Nikola Vapcarov and Sando Masev.

The American people, through USAID, have invested nearly \$500 million in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.